Appl. No. 10/069,346 Amdt. dated [insert date] Reply to Office Action of August 6, 2003

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please substitute the following amended, clean version of the Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Hybrid riser configuration comprising a plurality of steel riser pipes (10) substantially inserted in aluminium guide conduits (9), with buoyancy means (6) and tethering tension means, the guide conduits (9) and the riser pipes (10) being rigidly connected to a base (5) anchored to the ocean floor. The guide conduits (9) serve as the tethering tension means and as radial constraint for the respective riser pipe (10) therein to allow the riser pipe to buckle in elastic deformation (Euler) to form a spiral when expanding due to service pressure and temperature. A method for installing the riser configuration is also disclosed.